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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

January 15, 2008

Hon. Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Administrator Johnson:

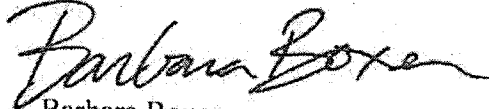
Based on information brought to my attention today, my Environment and Public Works Committee staff contacted the Environmental Protection Agency staff to request all available information regarding the effects of the December 23 coal combustion waste spill at the Kingston Fossil Plant in Harriman, TN, on radioactive materials in the Emory and Clinch Rivers.

I am writing to confirm EPA's agreement to provide me with a briefing paper on the actual and potential impact of the spill and subsequent cleanup activities on radioactive materials (including but not limited to cesium and strontium) in the Emory and Clinch Rivers, including any impact or potential impact on public health and safety, any sampling data, and EPA's plans for follow-up activities and next steps. Please also summarize all steps taken to date in connection with this issue. You agreed to provide this briefing paper as early as possible tomorrow. I expect to receive your report no later than 12:00 PM ET (noon), Friday, January 16, 2009.

An electronic copy of the report should be sent via email to the attention of Grant Cope; grant_cope@epw.senate.gov. Facsimile copy should also be transmitted to (202) 224-1273.

We will be in close communication with EPA staff regarding this matter, and we expect to have additional questions after we receive the report tomorrow.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
Chairman